



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

# News Release



**For Immediate Release**

April 15, 2015

For more information

Call (831) 338-8883

**MAY ACTIVITIES AT BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK**

Located 9 miles outside of Boulder Creek on Hwy 236 (831) 338-8883

**SPECIAL EVENT!**

**The Tramp and the Roughrider: John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt in Conversation**

**Saturday, May 16 at 2 pm in our Campfire Center**

Mountain Parks Foundation, in cooperation with California State Parks, is proud to sponsor this interpretive program featuring Lee Stetson as John Muir and Alan Sutterfield as President Teddy Roosevelt. These skillful storytellers will illuminate an extraordinary encounter of two key figures in the preservation of America's natural wonders.

Each of these characters is feisty and opinionated, with sharp disagreements on issues like hunting, animal rights and forest management. Muir's poetic and evangelistic temperament clashes with Roosevelt's political enthusiasm, spawning both tension and humor. Both men are clever storytellers; you should expect that each one will seek to top the other by relating some of their many adventures in the wilderness of early America.

Seating is FREE, but space is limited. A donation to Mountain Parks Foundation is requested.

**Redwood Loop Walk**

**Every Saturday and Sunday at 11 and 2 (except for only at 11 am on Sunday, May 10)**

**AND Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day) at 11 and 2**

How do these grand redwoods grow to be so old? So tall? How are they important to humans?

Join us for this fun and informative guided half-mile stroll through a magnificent old-growth redwood forest. Meet the famous Mother Tree, the Father of the Forest and the incredible Chimney Tree on this 90-minute walk. Stroller and wheelchair accessible. Meet at Headquarters.

**Campfire Programs**

**Saturday, May 23 at 7 pm**

**Sunday, May 24 at 7 pm**

**Saturday, May 30 at 7 pm (*special guest campfire, see below!*)**

Join us in our historic campfire center for an evening of song and story. Serenade the glittering stars and learn about redwood ecology, creatures of the forest or stories of the park while relaxing in the shadows of the towering trees. Fire lighting and marshmallow roasting (we

provide the marshmallows and sticks!) starts at 7:00 pm and the program begins at 7:30 pm. Wheelchair and stroller accessible. Good dogs welcome! Meet at the Campfire Center.

### **SPECIAL GUEST CAMPFIRE**

#### **A Visit with Pioneer Alice Maddock**

**Saturday, May 30 at 7 pm**

What was life like 125 years ago in Big Basin? Come meet Alice Maddock, a pioneering homesteader who lived here with her family in the late 1800s. What did they eat and how did they get it? What happened if they got sick? Hear Alice tell of life with her husband Tom and their seven children. Marshmallow roasting from 7-7:30; campfire program 7:30-8:30.

### **Junior Rangers**

**Saturday, May 23 at 3 pm**

**Sunday, May 24 at 3 pm**

**Monday, May 25 at 11 am**

**Saturday, May 30 at 3 pm**

**Sunday, May 31 at 11 am**

Discover the fascinating secrets of the forest! Explore, practice outdoor skills and play games as you learn about plants, animals, geology, and more. This one-hour program is for kids ages 7-12. Sorry parents, this program is for kids only! Please register your child at the Nature Lodge 15 minutes before the program begins. Please be sure your child is dressed for active play in the outdoors.

### **Big Basin Nature Club**

**Saturday, May 23 at 4:30 pm**

**Sunday, May 24 at 4:30 pm**

**Monday, May 25 at 10 am**

**Saturday, May 30 at 4:30 pm**

**Sunday, May 31 at 10 am**

This fun program is for children ages 3-6 and their families. Pretend, play, sing and explore! This half-hour program will introduce youngsters to the wonders of the redwood forest. Meet at the Nature Lodge.

### **Coffee Talk**

**Saturday, May 2 from 9:30-12:30**

**AND Saturday, May 23 from 9-12**

**AND Monday, May 25 from 9:30-12:30**

Come to the Sempervirens Room next to Park Headquarters for free coffee or hot chocolate! This is a great way to start your day in Big Basin. A Big Basin Docent will be happy to answer your questions about the park and help get you going on the right trail. And bring the kids for a fun craft activity!

### **Family Discovery Walk**

**Saturday, May 2 at 1 pm**

**AND Sunday, May 24 at 1 pm**

Join Docent Norm Beeson for a fun-filled family walk and investigate the mysteries and wonders of Big Basin's redwood forest! We'll discover what surprises the day offers on this easy, one-mile

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roundtrip walk that lasts about 1.5 hours. Bring water, a snack and an adventurous spirit! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **The Road Less Traveled—A Dog-Friendly Walk**

**Saturday, May 2 at 11:30 am**

**AND Sunday, May 10 at 9:30 am**

**AND Sunday, May 17 at 9:30 am**

**AND Sunday, May 24 at 9:30 am**

**AND Monday, May 25 at 10 am**

**AND Saturday, May 30 at 11:30 am**

**AND Sunday, May 31 at 9:30 am**

On this dog-, wheelchair-, stroller-, family-friendly walk, we travel on North Escape Road, a paved road closed to traffic. We tour stunning old-growth redwood groves along beautiful Opal Creek. We'll discuss redwood ecology and park history while exploring the deep shade of the redwood forest. This is a fun, easy, three-mile, two-hour roundtrip walk. Wheelchairs welcome too. Dogs not required, but welcome! Bring water and meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Sense-O-Rama!**

**Sunday, May 3 at 1 pm**

Sense-O-Rama is an easy, one-hour ramble with Docent Maura McNamara where you will tune into the more subtle sights, sounds, smells, and even taste of Big Basin! Come and enhance your experience of the forest. Open your senses! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Discover Big Basin Redwoods Hike!**

**Sunday, May 3 at 12 pm**

**AND Saturday, May 9 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, May 10 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, May 17 at 12 pm**

**AND Saturday, May 23 at 12 pm**

**AND Monday, May 25 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, May 31 at 12 pm**

Explore some of the park's less travelled backcountry with Docent Barry Grimm. This hike will be individually tailored to your group—so distance can vary from 2 to 8 miles, depending on your needs. The pace is always moderate—with occasional short stops to discover the park's unique animals, plants and other natural features. Based on group size, experience level and weather conditions, we will choose from the many trails that explore the park's most scenic areas. Dress in layers for changeable weather and temperatures. Bring sturdy walking shoes, water and trail snacks. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Volunteer with the Trail Crew**

**Saturday, May 9 at 9 am**

Since 1969 the Big Basin Volunteer Trail Crew has helped make it possible for others to safely enjoy the beauty of our park. The Trail Crew meets the second Saturday of each month, rain or shine. A typical workday lasts until mid-afternoon. Please bring your own work gloves, lunch and water. Join us for a unique perspective of Big Basin, a lively and productive experience with others who share a love of these redwood forests, and the satisfaction of participating in a vital part of the park's ability to educate and inspire the public! Meet at Park Headquarters.

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### **Berry Creek Falls Hike**

**Sunday, May 10 at 9:30 am**

Travel deep into the heart of Big Basin as you experience a wide range of habitats on this moderate to strenuous 11-mile-loop hike. Wind through shady redwood canyons and climb dry ridges as you hike to the jewel of Big Basin—65-foot Berry Creek Falls. Bring lots of water, lunch and wear layers. Docent Bill Rhoades guides you on this seven-hour hike. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **The Women of Big Basin**

#### **A Mother's Day Special Event at Big Basin Redwoods State Park**

**Sunday, May 10 at 1 pm**

Celebrate Mother's Day by honoring some of the incredible women who have lived in, worked in and fought for the Big Basin. Meet pioneer homemaker Alice Maddock; Josephine McCrackin, the "Savior of the Redwoods" and Harriet "Petey" Weaver, the first female Ranger. Interpreter Susan Blake portrays these inspiring women on this half-mile, 2-hour guided walk. Wheelchair and stroller accessible. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Wildflower Walk!**

**Saturday, May 16 at 10 am**

**Sunday, May 17 at 10 am**

Join a Big Basin Docent and learn to identify many of Big Basin's flowering plants. This is a slow-paced walk with time to discover and identify plants, flowers and animals in the park, and allow for photography if you choose. You'll also visit several historical spots within the park. Saturday's walk is a leisurely 4+-mile, 5-hour stroll that includes two chimney trees and a waterfall. Sunday's walk is a relaxed 5-mile, 5 1/2-hour amble that includes a chimney tree. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Park Headquarters.

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### **Here Comes the Sun!**

**Saturday, May 23 from 11 am to 1 pm**

Come to the Campfire Center and look through a solar telescope at the Sun. You'll see sunspots, solar prominences and other features of our closest star as you learn about the parts

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of the Sun and how it shines. There will be Sun-related activities for the kids. Conducted by Steve Widmark of the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club.

### **Hike the Last Chance Trail**

**Sunday, May 24 from 10-2**

Join Docent Steve Stolper as we hike the mysterious Last Chance Trail. We follow East Waddell Creek as it meanders through a deep forested canyon. The highlight of our trip is our lunch spot: a sunny rock overlooking cascades that feed the creek below. After a relaxing lunch, we leave our tranquil spot and return to park headquarters. This 4.4-mile out-and-back is a moderate hike with 300 feet elevation gain. But we cross a stream that requires hikers to rock-hop. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate clothing. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Snakes Alive!**

**Saturday, May 30 from 12-3 pm**

Why are snakes important to us? How do they see, smell, taste, hear? What and how do they eat? What does a snake feel like? Come to the Old Lodge, across the street from the Nature Lodge/Museum, and meet Docent Diane Shaw and learn about the fascinating world of snakes. Stop by anytime to meet the snakes and talk to Diane. Snake crafts for the kids too!

### **Hike to Buzzard's Roost**

**Sunday, May 31 from 10-2**

Develop your hiking muscles with this challenging 5-mile, 4-hour round trip to Buzzard's Roost. Join Docent Steve Stolper for a hike to a dramatic rock formation with a commanding view of the park. We gain 1,200 feet in elevation on the way up. After a relaxed lunch on the rocks, we return to headquarters. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate clothing. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

Co-Sponsored by California State Parks and Mountain Parks Foundation

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